

Claims

1. A nutritional, cosmetic or pharmaceutical composition for oral administration, which contains as active ingredient , at least one flavanone compound or its derivatives, or a mixture thereof, in an efficient amount to prevent, allievate or treat skin, hair and/or coat disorders.
2. A composition according to claim 1, wherein the flavanone compounds is isosacuranetin, naringin, hesperidin, eriodictyol, poncirin, neoeriocitrin.
3. A composition according to claim 1, wherein the derivatives are the aglycone, chalcone, glycosylated or methylated forms of the flavanone or sulfated and glucuronidated forms which are product of their metabolism in blood.
4. A composition according to claim 1, wherein the derivative is obtained by enzymatic treatment, or synthetically produced.
5. A composition according to any of claims 1 to 4, in which the flavanone compound is extracted from pulp or peel of Citrus fruits such as orange, lemon, bitter orange or grapefruit.
6. A composition according to any of claims 1 to 5, which further contains other active compounds such as vitamin C, vitamin E, carotenoids, ubiquinones, catechins, coffee extracts containing polyphenols and/or diterpenes, extracts of chicory, ginkgo biloba extracts, grape or grape seed extracts rich in proanthocyanidins, spice extracts, soy extracts, other sources of flavonoids with antioxidant activity, fatty acids, prebiotic fibers, probiotic microorganisms, taurine, resveratrol, aminoacids, selenium or precursors of glutathione.
7. A composition according to any of claims 1 to 5, which is milk, yogurt, curd, cheese,

fermented milks, milk based fermented products, ice-creams, milk based powders, infant formulae, cereal products, fermented cereal based products, mineral water, chocolate or pet food, dietary supplement, tablets or cosmetic products.

- 5 8. Use of at least one flavanone compound or its derivatives, or a mixture thereof, as active ingredient for the preparation of a composition intended to prevent, alleviate or treat skin, hair and/or coat disorders or damages.
- 10 9. Use of at least one flavanone compound or its derivatives, or a mixture thereof, as active ingredient for the preparation of a composition intended to improve skin, hair and /or coat conditions when administered to human or pet animal.
- 15 10. The use according to claim 8 or 9, wherein the flavanone compounds is isosacuranetin, naringin, hesperidin, eriodictyol, poncirin, neoeriocitrin or derivatives selected from their aglycone, chalcone, glycosylated or methylated forms or sulfated and glucuronidated forms which are product of their metabolism in blood.
- 20 11. The use according to any of claims 8 to 10, in which the flavanone compound is extracted from pulp or peel of Citrus fruits such as orange, lemon, bitter orange or grapefruit.
- 25 12. The use according to any of claims 8 to 11, wherein the composition is a cosmetic, nutritional or pharmaceutical composition.
- 30 13. The use according to any of claims 8 to 12, wherein the flavanone compounds, its derivatives or mixtures thereof is present in an amount of from 0.01 mg to 1g, preferably 0.1 mg to 800 mg of aglycone equivalent of the flavanone compound.
14. The use according to any of claims 8 to 13, wherein skin disorders or damages are produced by ageing or a stress situation such as chemical, biological or a physical

stress, exposure to oxidants or carcinogens, to bacteria, viruses, fungi, lipids derived from surrounding cells and/or microbes, or exposure to UV-irradiation.

- 5 15. The use according to any of claims 8 to 14, in which the composition is intended to improve skin photoprotection, hydration, dryness, firmness, elasticity, oilness, thickness, regular pigmentation, barrier function, skin elasticity, to prevent oxidative status, risks of cancer, inflammation or modulate sebum production or composition, and/or reduce signs of ageing.
- 10 16. The use according to any of claims 8 to 14, in which the composition is intended to improve hair and coat gloss, hair density, color, oilness, to ameliorate hair fibre diameter, sebum production and to prevent hair and coat loss.